

## Message Text

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12

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-04 /058 W

----- 013233

P R 230957Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1887

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG NKP

CDR JCRC NKP

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 9212

D/PW FOR SIEVERTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, CASC, LA

SUBJECT: AMCIT CHARLES M. DEAN

REFS: A) VIENTIANE 9130

B) VIENTIANE 8996 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY ON AFTERNOON DECEMBER 23 RECEIVED LETTER BEARING  
SAME DATE FROM MEMBER OF LAO PATRIOTIC FRONT REPRESENTATION IN  
VIENTIANE IN WHICH LPF DISCLAIMS ANY KNOWLEDGE OF MISSING  
AMERICAN CHARLES DEAN AND AUSTRALIAN NEIL SHARMAN.

2. FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF FRENCH TEXT:

"MR. AMBASSADOR,

"I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOU THAT AT THE  
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REQUEST OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GOVERN-

MENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF LAOS, I HAVE ASKED TELEGRAPHICALLY FOR NEWS CONCERNING THE TWO YOUNG MEN, AN AMERICAN AND AN AUSTRALIAN, WHO WERE SUSPECTED OF HAVING BEEN ARRESTED BY THE PATRIOTIC FORCES IN THE REGION OF PAK KADING AND PAK HINBOUN.

"THE RESPONSE THAT I HAVE JUST RECEIVED TODAY CONFIRMED THAT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT INQUIRED OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES WHO REPLIED THAT NO FOREIGNER HAS BEEN SEEN PASSING OR HAS BEEN ARRESTED ON THE TERRITORY UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

"PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. AMBASSADOR, THE EXPRESSION OF MY MOST DISTINGUISHED SENTIMENTS.

"FOR THE ABSENT REPRESENTATIVE,  
MEMBER OF THE REPRESENTATION,  
(SIGNED)  
"THONG PENE"

3. LETTER INDICATES THAT COPY WAS SENT TO FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUMI VONGVICHIT.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A DISTRESSING DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY AFTER WHAT APPEARED TO BE PROMISING SIGNS DURING VISIT OF HOWARD DEAN TO VIENTIANE LAST WEEK (REF A). RECOMMEND THAT DEPT PASS LPF TEXT TO HOWARD DEAN, ADDING THAT AMBASSADOR IS IN LUANG PRABANG FOR CLOSING CEREMONY OF JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL AND PLANS TO CONCERT WITH AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR AND PRESS THE CASE FURTHER WITH SENIOR LPF OFFICIALS WHO ARE ATTENDING SAME FUNCTION. WE WILL REPORT ASAP ON THESE CONVERSATIONS AND ON FURTHER COURSES OF ACTION. AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR HAS REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH PHOUMI MORNING DECEMBER 24. WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, MIA, ITINERARY, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974VIENTI09212  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**From:** VIENTIANE  
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**Office:** ACTION DPW  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 74 VIENTIANE 9130  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 JUL 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMCIT CHARLES M. DEAN  
**TAGS:** MOPS, CASC, LA, (DEAN, CHARLES M), (DEAN, HOWARD B)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005